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Contact: Jason Belenke (312-729-3631)

CONCORDIA HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE® NEBRASKA VOLLEYBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (December 11, 2014) — In its 30th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with USA TODAY High School Sports, today announced Megan Wickey of Concordia High School as its 2014-15 Gatorade Nebraska Volleyball Player of the Year. Wickey is the first Gatorade Nebraska Volleyball Player of the Year to be chosen from Concordia High School.

The award, which recognizes not only outstanding athletic excellence, but also high standards of academic achievement and exemplary character demonstrated on and off the field, distinguishes Wickey as Nebraska's best high school volleyball player. Wickey joins an elite alumni association of past state award-winners in 12 sports, including USA Volleyball players Kim Glass (2001-02, Horseshoe HS, Penn.), Kim Willoughby (1998-99, 1999-00, Assumption HS, La.) and Ogonna Nnamani (1999-00, University HS, Ill).

The 6-foot-2 senior outside hitter slammed 455 kills while recording a .520 kill percentage and .460 hitting percentage this past season, leading the Mustangs (34-2) to the Class C-1 state quarterfinals. Named the honorary captain of the Lincoln Journal Star's Super-State squad, Wickey also tallied 269 digs, 38 service aces and 34 blocks. In three Class C-1 state tournament matches, Wickey collected 72 kills (.352 hitting percentage), 40 digs, six service aces, three blocks and one assist.

Also an All-State track athlete, Wickey has maintained a 3.73 GPA in the classroom. In addition to donating her time as a youth volleyball instructor, she has volunteered on behalf of her church, The Salvation Army, the Abide Omaha neighborhood initiative, the Methodist Children's Hospital, Big Brothers Big Sisters of America and The Urban Plunge ministry. Wickey has also participated in a drive to create blankets for Alzheimer's disease patients and has fundraised in association with multiple campaigns to benefit cancer research.

"Megan sees the court extremely well," said Concordia head coach Kiley Hansen. "She has the ability to place the ball in holes, hit hard anywhere on the court and tool the block. Her serve-receive is outstanding day in and day out. Her strongest area might be her defense, because she reads hitters so well and is very quick. On top of her physical attributes, Megan is also coachable, hard-working and a great teammate."

Wickey has signed a National Letter of Intent to play volleyball on scholarship at The Ohio State University in the fall of 2015.

The [Gatorade Player of the Year](#) program annually recognizes one winner in the District of Columbia and each of the 50 states that sanction high school football, girls volleyball, boys and girls cross country, boys and girls basketball, boys and girls soccer, baseball, softball, and boys and girls track & field, and awards one National Player of the Year in each sport. The selection process is administered by the Gatorade high school sports leadership team in partnership with [USA TODAY High School Sports](#), which work with top sport-specific experts and a media advisory board of accomplished, veteran prep sports journalists to determine the state winners in each sport.

Wickey joins recent Gatorade Nebraska Volleyball Players of the Year Olivia Boender (2013-14, Waverly High School), Amber Rolfzen (2012-13 & 2010-11, Papillion-La Vista South High School), Kadie Rolfzen (2011-12, Papillion-La Vista South High School), Lauren Sieckmann (2009-10, Marian), Gina Mancuso (2008-09, Papillion-La Vista South High) and Lauren Cook (2007-08, Pius X) among the state's list of former award winners.

To keep up to date on the latest happenings, become a fan of Gatorade Player of the Year on Facebook and follow us on Twitter. For more on the Gatorade Player of the Year program, including nomination information, a complete list of past winners and the announcement of the Gatorade National Player of the Year, visit www.gatorade.com/poy.

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